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W. Woodruff

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE;

DESERET, DECEMBER 2, 1850.

TO THE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF DESERET.

GENTLEMEN:—Again have our duties brought us together in the capacity of a legislature, for the purpose of establishing government, and prescribing laws and regulations, which shall prove adequate to the wants and necessities of the people.

It is usual upon occasions like this, to lay before the law-making department, a full and concise report of the situation of affairs pertaining to the government, as well as to make such suggestions and recommend such measures as in the opinion of the executive will prove the most advantageous to the body politic. I purpose so to do, so far as I shall have the ability and the means within my reach, reserving unto myself the privilege of completing any report, as circumstances shall dictate or require.

It is probably known to you that Congress has passed an Act to establish the Territory of Utah, and provided for taking the census of Deseret, but as yet, no official announcements have been made, consequently the government of Deseret will continue in all its departments, until such time as it shall be superceded by an organization contemplated under the act of congress Whatever may be effected under the new organization, we have the proud satisfaction, of having sustained a quiet, yet energetic government, under all the vicissitudes incident to new and untried localities; and when the general government shall have assumed to pay the expenditures consequent upon the Indian expeditions,—of being comparatively free from debt.

Unlike the golden browed neighbors of our sister state, no agent of ours is hawking about our state bonds, to obtain the necessary means to defray the sixteen dollars per diem allowance of the members of the legislature in this state, no expense has been incurred, by any of the departments of government for services rendered.

The auditor's report will show, the amounts paid out, being almost exclusively for public improvements, or articles purchased for public use And here permit me to remark, that in order to make the settlement of the pecuniary matters of the state more direct and feasible, I wish to direct your attention to the suggestions contained in that report, and recommend their adoption —in defining the duties of all officers in any wise handling the public funds In all time to come, it is to be hoped that that enlightened and wise policy will pervade our legislatures, which not requiring laws to restrain, will yet keep their appropriations and allowances within proper limits. The success of all governments depends upon their having power and ability to perform their various functions, and there is no surer way of crippling their energies and binding their exertions, than plunging them heedlessly and hopelessly into debt; it is far better to assess a tax at once, adequate to all the necessary expenditures of government, than permit an accumulation of indebtedness to harrass every department, and the consequent [illegible] of forced and temporary loans.

Under the fostering care of the government, the subject of education is fast assuming an importance that will reflect great credit upon our exertions. The board of chancellor and regents of the University have already established schools in various parts of the state, mostly however, without incurring any expense to the institution The enlightened course pursued by that board, will unquestionably redound to the benefit of the institution, as well as to a general system of education, throughout the state, and must certainly meet with your cordial approval, and warmest encouragement The situation selected for educational purposes upon the eastern side of the city, will probably be enclosed the ensuing winter; and suitable buildings erected as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained for that purpose.

In extending, and making new settlements, one uniform course has been recommended; that of building and settling in forts in the first instance, and farming in one enclosure.

HISTORIAN'S OFFICE.
Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints.

This course has proven highly successful;— nevertheless, we have been compelled, in order to sustain ourselves and our settlements, to make two expeditions against the native tribes; one against the Timpanogos last February, of which you were informed, the other against a portion of the Shoshones, in September last. This last expedition was conducted strictly upon the defensive, and every effort made to attain to a peaceful adjustment of all difficulties unfortunately existing. The Indians having fled, were not encountered by our detachment, but recent reports seem favorable to a peaceful termination

All the Indians with whom we have had difficulties, are detached or broken off bands from the main tribes; with them, our peaceful relations have never been interrupted — We have spared no time or expense in endeavoring to conciliate the Indians, and learn them to leave off their habits of pilfering and plundering, and work like other people; but habits of civilization seem not to be in accordance with their physical formation; many that have tried it, pine away, and unless returning to their former habits of living, died in a very short time Could they be induced to live peaceably and keep herds of cattle, their condition would very materially be ameliorated, and gradually induce a return to the habits of civilization.

It becomes us to be prepared to repel sudden invasions as they generally come at an unexpected moment. To this end I would recommend a more efficient organization of the militia, and strict requirements of officer's reports, and uniform distribution of public service; also, that sufficient means be appropriated to defray the expenses of repairing and housing the public arms, ordnance, &c., and purchasing supplies of camp equipages, baggage, waggons, and teams.

Unparallelled in the history of the times, not a solitary case was reported for trial, before the regular sessions of either the county or supreme courts, during the past year, and no offence beyond the control of a justice of the peace seems to have been committed — This argues favorably in behalf of justice's courts having extended jurisdiction, and probably, is partly owing to the requirements of the law, making it the duty af all officers to seek to allay and compromise differences, instead of promoting litigation.

It is highly necessary that a court of probate should be organized, or else th duties of probate courts and public administrator be devolved upon some office now organized.— The estray pound, enclosures, and herding, are each of them subjects requiring your most careful attention, being fruitful sources of compl nt, and liable to terminate in litigation General laws, specific in their nature, should be passed upon the subject, at as early a day as practicable

The Bath House, near the Warm Springs, is now completed, and will, it is confidently believed, 'ere long, become a source of revenue to the state.

It is highly desirable that the capitalists of this state should introduce machinery for the manufacturing of all kinds of machinery, that will hereafter, be wanted for factories, &c, also stoves, and other articles of heavy exportation should be manufactured by our own enterprize and industry Incalculable benefits would result to this community, if they would engage in almost every kind of manufacture, not only iron, but paper, books, woollen, cloth, leather, crockery, stone-ware, and sugar Upon this last named article I will submit a single estimate for your consideration Not more than twenty thousand persons would use 456,250 pounds, allowing only one ounce a day to each person; the expense of the transportation alone, at the low rate of ten cents a pound, would amount to $45,625; a sum adequate to construct the most extensive sugar manufactory, and when considered in connexion with the superior quality of the beet, and facility with which it can be raised in these valleys, renders it most suicidal policy for us to be dependent upon other than our own resources for that article

In the neighborhood of what has usually been termed Little Salt Lake, (now Iron county,) our exploring party of last winter, discovered inexhaustible beds of the very best of iron ore. A settlement is now being made at that point

There is no doubt but that the demand and price consequent upon the distance of any successful competition, will prove sufficient inducement for the capitalists to invest their means, in whatever will necessarily prove a safe investment and ensure an abundant return; any and all kinds of encouragement, by throwing around them an energetic and efficient government, should unquestionably be given It is wisdom to let capital be associated in infant settlements, because there is a necessity for it, for a time; but to lay the foundation for monied capitalists to monopolize against labor, is no part of my policy, politics, or religion. To encourage enterprize in constructing works of magnitude, it may be well to grant privileges; but they should be so guarded, as to be made amenable to the power granting them, at all times, for the abuse of the powers granted, or diverting them to any other object than the one designed.

From this city, a railroad will most probably be constructed to Iron county, as also

continuously to Southern California, terminating at San Diego. Whatever encouragement you may find it in your power to extend to an object so full of interest to our citizens, I shall most readily acquiesce therein, being within the range of my constitutional duties

Friends, I feel it a privilege, which I believe I appreciate, in having the opportunity I now enjoy, of addressing you upon Governmental affairs.

There are many, very many causes conspiring together, which make it a subject of deep fraught interest, to behold as I do this day, in this mountainous and desert land, (where three years since, were only found the wild, ferocious beast and roving savage,) senators and representatives congregated in a comfortable public building, which would do credit to any state of a free, enlightened, and happy people It is a subject of congratulation to me, to you my friends, and to the world, that the all-wise disposer of human events has so decreed in His providence that the desert and the solitary place shall be made glad, that the area of human freedom shall be extended, and civilization shall rear her habitations amid the silence of the eternal hills, the mighty forests, and lonely islands of the sea It is this that has peopled the Atlantic slope of our mountains, furnishing the world with this vast republic of nations, and is now gathering in her fist a few more, to throw over to the Pacific slope, as a counterpoise to trim her otherwise unequally balanced ship of state

DESERET is not yet three years old, and yet such has been the rapidity of her growth, the extent of her improvements, and the development of her resources, as to command the admiration, and the respect of all whose lot has been cast within her bounds, and those afar off, hearing the glad tidings, are stretching forth their itching palms towards another of those free states where the oppressed go free, and the poor, through ordinary industry, find ample provision

Forgive a single allusion to the past. The oppressed became the oppressor, and the oppressed again go forth to form new communities, new settlements, and new governments Hence are we here, amid these vast mountains and solitary plains, hence are we here, assembled in solemn council to frame laws for the organization and rule of communities, and, what gives zest to the picture, devise such laws and regulations as shall perpetuate, guarantee, and sustain, in time to come, our free and glorious institutions to the latest generation

Friends, in all your deliberations, I shall be happy to participate, so far as it shall be my privilege, and hoping that unanimity and zeal, wisdom and intelligence, may characterize your exertions for the public good the ensuing session, that when you return, you may be enabled to carry with you the proud conviction of having faithfully discharged your duty to your country and yourselves, is the prayer of

Your co-laborer,
BRIGHAM YOUNG

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